



Plymouth Social Enterprise Network

Minutes of the Network meeting held 16th July 2013 at Francis Clarke, LLP, North Quay House, Sutton Harbour, Plymouth PL4 0RA

Present: Annette Morton (Peninsula Enterprise/Social Enterprise Focus), Gareth Hart (Iridescent Ideas), Dirk Rohwedder (Dartington School for Social Entrepreneurs), Michelle Virgo (Plymouth Business School), Peter McNamara (Plymouth Community Homes), Ed Whitelaw (Real Ideas Organisation - RIO), Dave Kilroy (Application Insight), Mandy Toze (Millfields Trust), Kate Smith (Memory Matters), Sarah Stevenson (Plymouth Business School), Jane Hunt (Plymouth City Council), Lou Matter (Royal Society of Arts), Simon Petherick (Word Machine), Jackie Williams & Carrie Skyes (Department of Work & Pensions), Carolyn Giles (Private Public Partnerships), Tim Culverhouse (Francis Clarke LLP)

1. Welcome, Introduction and Apologies

Gareth Hart as Chair welcomed all present. Ed Whitelaw took minutes. The following apologies were received: Kirsty Wick (KW Accounting), Roger Pipe (Millfields Trust)

2. Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising

March meeting minutes – accepted as accurate with no matters arising.

3. Presentation from Carolyn Giles – Public Private Partnership

Carolyn Giles outlined her background as an HR consultant and wider contextual challenge around the economy and the need for public/private sector rebalancing. Issue with negative stereotyping of public sector staff and potentially issue of staff institutionalising. This created barriers for employment in private sector and no one was doing anything about this. 2,500 Public sector worker redundancies in city.

- Working with Chamber developed and no funding/no cost programme to create a 1 – 3 months work experience programme for public sector workers experiencing redundancy.
- Can match and place public sector workers in private companies, giving experience, adding to CV
- Currently re-launching programme with Chamber at City Consultation and Chamber events.
- Wanted to offer experience to social enterprise companies and look at social enterprise start-up options.
- Need to be discrete, solid pieces of work and projects, good for back room tasks such as IT, Accounts, HR, etc.

GH – asked about process: visit chamber website Public to Private and sign up.

EW – talked about Start-Up Loans £500 - £10,000

DR – asked about maximum length and P/T vs F/T – 3 months max, no more than 4 days due to other job hunting needs.

SP – asked about funding and internships – no funding and not an intern due to legalities

4. Presentation from Jackie Williams and Carrie Skyes DWP

CS outlined their current Work Experience programme and invited members to get involved. Programme is for young people or anyone, could be school leavers, people who'd been out of work for some time or off sick, etc. Since April they had 137 people through the scheme, aimed to get 200 through and emphasised that the placements are voluntary for the job seeker. Placements are for 2-8 weeks, where the job seekers still gain benefits and the job centre will cover travel costs of around £25-25 per week.

For volunteers they expect them to be enthusiastic, punctual, and respectful and to see this as employment.

For organisations they expect them to be open minded, release them for interview and provide reference. They would like staff to be enthusiastic, provide diverse opportunities and to provide mentoring and supervision.

For further information contact Carrie.Skyes@dwp.gsi.gov.uk

JW outline the Wage Incentive scheme which is for 18-14 years old and provide an incentive for employers to take on new staff. This is £2200 for 6 months and the placement must be a minimum of 16hrs pw. If people have opportunities they will advertise them. Currently they are getting 76% into further work and they naturally have a high level of graduate coming through.

For further information contact Jackie.Williams@dwp.gsi.gov.uk

5. Membership applications

The executive committee recommended the following applicants for membership:

- Effervescent (full membership)
- Fairport (full membership)
- Surplus WEEE CIC (full membership)
- Story Book Dads (associate membership)
- Liberty Insurance Brokers (associate membership)

At the meeting only 15 members had paid their fee and this was now being chased.

New website is up, when a member has paid they will appear here (and members will be able to edit their own profile on our website) with links to their own site, twitter account etc.

6. Presentation Lou Matter from the RSA

Lou talked about the background to the RSA was founded in 1754 and is today very much a "think and do tank". They have 27,000 Fellows around the world and a main building and operation in London. They do significant work around social enterprise and have funding pots for

Fellows (between £2000-5000). They will have a more extensive involvement in the festival this year. If people are interested in joining the fellowship or more info in the RSA contact Lou.Matter@thersa.org

7. Get Involved in the Festival 2013

- Enterprise week is 18th-25th November 2013.
- Enterprise day takes place on Thursday 21st November. PSEN have pre-booked Roland Levinsky building.
- We want to continue and develop the Social Enterprise City 'brand' with a focus on public engagement with social enterprise.
- GH – invited people to get involved and suggest ideas. Apart from the main trade fair most events will be run by member and brand and publicised by PSEN. Please send ideas to ed.whitelaw@realideas.org
- SP talked about event they are planning at the medicinal pharmacy. EW talked about the social enterprise pub quiz at Bread and Roses, SS talked about the university doing a student beginners guide to social enterprise. Other events are planned from Blurt foundation, PCH, DSSE, Zebra and Column acoustic
- The festival is still looking for sponsors again contact EW

8. Social Enterprise Killer Facts

GH talked about a list of social enterprise facts that have come from the LEP and SEUK which are useful to make the case for social enterprise support. These will be on the website.

9. AOB

- GH reminded members about the sponsored slots available in the Plymouth Herald
- SEUK awards are now live
- Venture programme is ongoing and planned event for 26th
- JW remind people about the flexible support fund
- MV talked about her research with the uni into social enterprise values
- AM – talked about the £50k challenge fund from social enterprise focus
- KS said they were successful in gain 5K grant from PCHealth
- GH – talked about his work around social impact bonds
- MT talked about Millfields Trust's success with funding for their new building
- DR – working on social incubator fund at Dartington
- SS talked about new enterprise centre opening at mast house
- SP talked about plans around the three towns centenary in 2014

10. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on September 17th from 11.30 am to 1.30 pmat Millfields Trust.

Close of meeting.